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ABSTRACT

Children are naturally curious about their environment. Young children observe and openly seek to understand what they see. Many teachers find that science is the near perfect vehicle to help children develop their thinking skills. The task of the elementary school science teacher is to help children acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to understand the world around them. The purpose of this book is to help preservice and inservice elementary school teachers acquire the skill, knowledge and attitudes that will enable them to teach science well in their classrooms. This book consists of two parts which are organized sequentially; how to teach and what to teach. Each chapter contains objectives, exercises, and self-checks of the learning. Extension activities can be found at the end of each chapter in section one. The science content in section two is divided into 18 major topics. Each of the concepts is accompanied by a brief discussion dealing with the heart of the content. Also included are several sample lesson plans and a summary of the major concepts. Appendices include a list of commercial suppliers of science materials and audio-visual materials, a directory of elementary science textbooks, a list of sources of free and inexpensive science teaching materials, a list of professional publications, a list of software suppliers and a list of tradebook suppliers. (CW)

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